WRITTEN ANSWERS To QUESTIONS

Setting up of gas terminals

*186. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to ttat«:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under their consideration for the setting up of natural gas terminals; and

<(b) if so, what are the details alongwith location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT); (a) and (b) At present there are no terminals for handling imported gas nor is any natural gas being imported. Efforts are being made to increase LPG imports by augmenting terminal facilities.

Follow-up action on Chari Committee Report

*187. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be plea-sed to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1931 given in Rajya Sabha on the 13th March, 1989 regarding Chart Committee report relating to 'Issues in Coal' and state:

(a) what follow-up action has been taken by Government on the basis of the report and with what result;

(b) when the Chari Committee was set up and under what background of pro blems and what changes have been noticed relating to these problems since then; and

(c) whether another Committee has >been set up for considering the' recommenda tions of Chari Committee?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The recommenda-tions/observations made by the Special Committee of Secretaries on the report 'ISSUES IN COAL' submitted by Shri Chari are being examined by the Government.

(b) The Chari Committee was set up by the erstwhile Advisory Board on Energy (A.B.E.) in October, 1986 with a view to make a study of main issues in the Coal Sector—the single most important source of energy. The main problems related to Coal Industry at the time of study were low level of output per manshift specially in underground mines, excessive Jarge la bour 'force employed ln the industry, mourrting cumulative loss despite frequent price re-visions, shortage of coking cod, deteriorating quality *6t* coal, low equip ment utilisation etc. Since the time of study, productivity h% increased although even now it is at a low level, underground productivity has also shown marginal im provement, labour force in the industry has remained practically constant while' the production of coal has increased sub stantially; equipment utilisation has im proved, loss in Coal India Ltd. has also shown a declining trend in last few years.

(c) In accordance with the procedure laid down, the recommendations made by Shri Chari in his report 'Issues in Coal' were considered by a Sub-Committee of A.B.E, The report of the Sub-Committee was considered by the Committee of Sec retaries. The Committee of Secretaries have finalised their views on the recom mendations made by A.B.E. except re garding organisational change in Coal India Limited.

Essentiality of Psychotherapeutic drugs

@*188. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1646 given in fhe Rajya

(SPreviously Starred Question 108 Transferred from the 25th July, 1989.